



Community • Integrity • Prosperity

DMA Gab-RRR

VOLUME 19 NO. 8 AUGUST 2007



advertising for your business due to networking opportunities, and it certainly helps our town. There are also many benefits that come with this for you personally. There are other ways that you can get involved, too. We need advertising commitments for the festival newspaper inserts, road race runners, silent auction items, and, of course, we would love to have you as a member of the Festival group of volunteers. For more information go to www.duluthfallfestival.com.

We will have an abundance of food and beverages at the August meeting. **Rich Daluga** will be serving his great specialties from **La Cazuela** plus other new treats and delicacies. **Ron Harris**, from the **Soda Shop**, will be providing an ice cream bar that is perfect for August weather. **Bernard Robertson** with **Duluth Fine Wine & Spirits**, who hosted the May DMA meeting, will furnish wine and beer that night. All three are great festival sponsors, and we really appreciate their support. The Fall Festival committee will provide desserts and other beverages.

The Duluth Fall Festival Committee is very happy to be hosting the August Duluth Merchants Association meeting as we have done for the last several years. We really appreciate the many sponsors that we have in DMA, and the number of volunteers who belong to both organizations. We also are appreciative that DMA will oversee the shuttle service again this year. That has been a wonderful addition to the festival, and it has improved every year. We have many compliments on this and on your members who help with it.



Festival Co-Chairs this year are Jim and Susan Dugan, and they send you a special invitation to be there. We will be glad to answer any questions that you might have that night, or please feel free to give me or Jim & Susan a call at any time. They, along with Jennifer Ingalls, Annette McIntosh, and the Festival Committee will be your hosts. We all value our ties to DMA. Our overall goals are the same, in that both organizations want to make Duluth the very best place there is to live and to do business. **We all look forward to seeing you at the Festival Center on August seventh, and, of course, again September 29th & 30th at the Duluth Fall Festival.**

.....

Kathryn Willis
2007 Duluth Fall Festival Sponsor Committee
Kwillis@ParsonsGifts.com
770-476-3405 or 770-887-9991(w)

www.duluthfallfestival.com

As has happened for the past 24 years, all of our proceeds go back into Downtown Duluth and toward paying for the Duluth Festival Center. We are very proud of this building, and, as always, it will be the location of the August meeting. We have also done other projects recently such as bricking and landscaping the courtyard/parking lot on Main Street.

At the meeting we will tell you a little about the history of the festival, our past accomplishments, and our plans for the future. We have already sent sponsor brochures to all of you to explain the sponsor program, but will have more there. Being a sponsor is really good



**Duluth Merchants
Association**
www.duluthmerchants.com

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from the desk of the
President

DEAR DMA MEMBERS,

Thanks again to Mary Roberts and her staff at Hands of Christ for hosting the July general meeting.

Mary and her staff showcased their new home. Hands of Christ started helping people in a small 650 square ft. building and now is home to a 9000 square foot facility. Mary is very enthusiastic and excited about their ability to help out even more people. As with most charitable organizations there is always a need for food and cash donations. The DMA has been very fortunate to be able to help the Hands of Christ. Again, thank you.

Our next meeting will be hosted by the Duluth Fall Festival. It will be held at the Festival Building on the Town Green on Tuesday, August 7th.

Hope to see all of you there.

*Richard Daluga
President,
Duluth Merchants Association*

Around Duluth

Visit the city's website at www.DuluthGa.com for more info on events taking place in Duluth.

August 3 The Zac Brown Band

August 4 Flicks on the Bricks: "Arthur and the Invisibles"

August 10 The Return (Beatles Tribute band)

August 17 A-1-A (Jimmy Buffet Tribute band)

August 18 Maurice Williams and the Zodiacs and The Fabulous Expressions

August 24 Little River Band

September 08 Flicks on the Bricks: "How to Eat Fried Worms"

Halloween on the Green Flicks on the Bricks: "Monster House"



Dear friends of the Hands of Christ Co-Op,
As many of you know, there are times that the food pantry runs low on donations of food. We are at that point. We are asking you to help us to replenish our stock of the items we need. We are having food to come in, and none of our clients are going without—we just are not getting in the items we need the most in these food drives. If you can help, please let me know and I will be glad to work with you however I can.

Thanks,

Yvette Hammond
Food Drive Coordinator
yhammond@bellsouth.net
770-622-3086

Needed Items

- ✓ Dried beans in 1 lb pks
- ✓ Dried milk in 1 qt sizes
- ✓ Misc canned vegetables, spinach, mixed vegetables, beets, tomatoes, lima beans,
- ✓ Cooking oil in small sizes
- ✓ Washing powder
- ✓ Paper towels
- ✓ Stuffing mix
- ✓ Instant potatoes
- ✓ Crackers



**Gwinnett Medical Center
Duluth**

Fabulous Shopping, Lunch, and a Medical Test or Two.

Sunny Ramsay, Volunteer Coordinator

Take a long lunch break...get out of the office and come over to visit your new hospital...Gwinnett Medical Center - Duluth. GMC-D is located just off of Pleasant Hill Road and Howell Ferry. Besides being the state of the art digital hospital with the latest in imaging equipment, 81 private luxurious room (6 of those are one bedroom suites), and the Glancy Spirit...we have a few other areas for you to explore.

The GMC-D Gift Shop (The Best Little 'Secret' Gift Shop in Duluth) is filled with all kinds of unique gifts from angels, to jeweled boxes, to home décor items and jewelry... we always "gift up" with special holiday items! The selection of greeting cards is guaranteed to lift the spirit, brighten the day, bring on a great laugh or two and comfort a friend. Customers compliment us about our unusual items and the fabulous prices. Plus you leave with a gift complete with gift bag and tissue! Come by and shop....meet some of the world's friendliest Volunteers...they just might be one of your neighbors.

While you are here...come and dine in the Cafeteria. If the last time you were at the Hospital was the DMA special dinner in October it is time to come back! The Cafeteria is open for Breakfast from 6:30 until 9:30, Lunch from 11:30-1:30, Dinner from 4:30 until 6:30...and the Grill is open from 11 am until 12:30am. The hot items are yummy, plentiful and vary day by day. The grill is great for a burger or a dog or a deli sandwich, and whatever you do... do not miss the dessert spread...and the warm delicious cobbler. And you thought a hospital was only for the sick. At your hospital...you can shop and dine in one beautiful setting...and even go in for a test or two or visit a friend.

We welcome fellow DMA members to come and visit your hospital...GMC-D...have a meal...and don't forget to shop in The Best Little "Secret" Gift Shop in Duluth!

The Future of Duluth Begins with You.

Please join your fellow residents, city staff, business leaders, and elected officials in charting the course for the Duluth of tomorrow ... Duluth 2030.

In association with the Duluth 2030 Comprehensive Plan update, the City of Duluth invites you to participate in a

COMMUNITY VISIONING WORKSHOP

WHEN:

Thursday, August 23, 2007
6:00 - 9:30 p.m.

WHERE:

Duluth Festival Center
3142 Hill Street, Duluth, GA 30096

WHY:

To Share your vision and ideas for creating the Duluth you want to live, work and play in.

RSVP:

If you are attending, please respond via email to Michelle Larsen at mlarsen@duluthga.net so we can get an accurate count of attendees for food and refreshments.

Food and refreshments will be served.

CID takes Major Step Forward with Pleasant Hill Bridge Project.

Funds approved for required study justifying a revamp of the Interstate crossing

The process of dramatically revising the Pleasant Hill Road bridge is now closer to commencement following today's action from the Gwinnett Place Community Improvement District (CID).

CID Board members approved \$150,000 to fund an Interstate Modification Report (IMR) for the District's highest-priority project – reconstruction of the Pleasant Hill Road from a traditional crossing into a versatile single-point urban interchange.

The Federal Highway Administration requires an IMR to justify to Federal officials the need for replacing bridges over Interstates, and the complex details of the analysis require 12 to 18 months to complete. Receiving IMR approval from county, state and

federal authorities is a critical step to eventually create engineering documents and begin construction for the Pleasant Hill Road project.

County Commissioners are expected to vote on an agreement to

initiate the IMR process during their July 17 meeting. The CID will be working in partnership with the county and state Departments of Transportation to complete the IMR.

“Without a successfully completed Interstate Modification Report, we stand little chance of ever overcoming the bottleneck on Pleasant Hill Road,” said Joe Allen, the CID's Executive Director. “Traffic congestion relief for greater Gwinnett Place is a vital part of maintaining our area's attractiveness to the businesses community.”

Animated examples of how a single-point urban interchange functions are now available at the Gwinnett Place CID Web site - www.GwinnettPlaceCID.com



CID, County Officials Celebrate 'Take Pride In Gwinnett'

County leaders join CID for special recognition of landscaping efforts.

Gwinnett County officials today joined leaders of the Gwinnett Place CID for special recognition of the Community Improvement District's landscaping efforts.

The Gwinnett Place CID marked the installation of the distinctive "Take Pride In Gwinnett" signs placed to mark landscape enhancements made at Pleasant Hill Road and Venture Parkway as well as Commerce Avenue and Satellite Boulevard.

County Commission Chairman Charles Bannister, County Commissioner Lorraine Green and Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful Executive Director Connie Wiggins joined in a photo opportunity with members of the CID's Board of Directors at one of the sign locations.

Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful's "Take Pride In Gwinnett" program identifies organizations responsible for upgrading and maintaining the appearance of certain public roadways. "For too long, these areas were neglected. Now in cooperation with Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful, we have turned these into places that make us all be proud," CID Chairman Mark Williams said.

Additionally, the CID has committed \$406,000 to landscape Interstate exits at Steve Reynolds Boulevard and Pleasant Hill Road beginning in the fall. The CID also plans to expand landscaping on Breckenridge Boulevard and Crestwood Parkway.

PHOTO: In attendance (From L-R) Gwinnett County Commission Chairman, Charles Bannister, Gwinnett Clean and Beautiful Chairman, Connie Wiggins, Gwinnett Place CID Chairman, Mark Williams, Gwinnett County Commissioner, Lorraine Green, Blake Manton, President, Imagescapes, Inc. and Joe Allen Executive Director Gwinnett Place CID.

2007 DMA meetings Calendar

Most Meetings begin at 6:00pm on the first Tuesday of each month (although this can vary). Locations vary monthly. Dates subject to change.

JANUARY 9: Findley Building (John Monk's office)

FEBRUARY 6: The Soda Shop & The Artistic Gourmet

MARCH 6: Gwinnett Community Bank

APRIL 3: Wild Bills

MAY 1: Duluth Fine Wine and Package

JUNE 5: Cover You

JULY 3: Hands of Christ

AUGUST 7: Duluth Fall Festival

SEPTEMBER 4: Maloof Chiropractic

OCTOBER 2: Atlanta Flooring & Design

NOVEMBER 6: Houston & Company, CPAs

DECEMBER 4: Fosters Childrens Foundation

WELCOME TO THE DULUTH MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION!

The DMA was conceived with the idea that as business people we can best accomplish together what no one could do alone.

It is an association for members to participate in and improve the Duluth Community.

IS YOUR COMPANY MAKING NEWS?

If it is, we want to spotlight you in the DMA Gab-RRR. If you have any significant news about your business: awards, big wins, new expansions, relocating, please e-mail them to Terry Palmer at gabrrr@duluthmerchants.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please e-mail address changes to Dennis Keller at accentmail@bellsouth.net or call him at 678.473.4643



Duluth Merchants Association
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